Library

I

ACKN BY

Ventnor Urban District Council

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING THE

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1963

THE VENTNOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, VENTNOR, ISLE OF WIGHT

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the report of

THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1963

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman - Councillor G.F.J. Rendall

Councillors Mrs. F.E. Ingram, Miss D.L. Lake, H. Lowe,
W. Burden, A.E. Walters, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

John D. Russell, M.B., B.S.(Syd.), D.P.H.(Lond.). Resigned July, 1963

D.W. Quantrill M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., D.(OBST.), R.C.O.G. Commenced duties September, 1963.

Office:- County Hall, Newport, I.W.
Telephone:- NEWPORT 2261.

Public Health Inspector

J.D. Hadden
A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk

Mrs. D. Morris

Rodent Operative

Mr. R. Norman

VENTNOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the
Ventnor Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1963 in accordance with the direction of the Minister of Health.

STATISTICS

General

The total hours of sunshine was the lowest for several years.

Vital

The estimated population remains the same as for last year.

There were more deaths during the year than in recent years, but this is not surprising in view of the severe winter. Compared with the rest of the country, however, the death rate was not significantly high when allowances have been made for the higher proportion of elderly people who reside here.

There was only one infant death and no maternal deaths were recorded.

CAUSES OF DEATH

There were fewer deaths due to lung cancer. Deaths due to coronary heart disease, however, increased.

There was one death due to pulmonary tuberculosis and one death due to motor vehicle accident.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The number of notifications of infectious diseases was still very low. There were only forty nine cases of measles and two of tuberculosis.

Again there is a clean record as far as diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis are concerned. This satisfactory state of affairs is due to immunisation against these diseases.

Unfortunately, there is no effective means of immunisation against the common cold. Colds and associated catarrhal conditions appear to be as prevalent in the comparatively mild climate and clean air of Ventnor as they are elsewhere. On the other hand, I do not agree that the Isle of Wight is a particularly bad place for catarrh. In fact, chronic sufferers should benefit from living here.

No cases of food poisoning were notified. This is a condtion that is most prevalent in very warm weather so that it is unlikely that many cases occurred in 1963. In a seaside resort the Health Department must be particularly vigilant regarding this disease. It is fortunate that your Public Health Inspector has taken a special interest in food hygiene and, generally speaking, he has enjoyed good co-operation from both shopkeepers and those responsible for catering. Furthermore, I am very pleased to report that the Ventnor Hoteliers' Association and the Business Men's Association have taken an interest in our efforts to improve standards of food hygiene, which I am sure already compare favourably with many other seaside resorts. A programme of Health Education is under consideration for maintaining and improving these standards.

REMOVAL OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

There were no persons admitted to hospital under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

Whilst the physique and general standards of health of children in the district continues to improve there is unfortunately a very high incidence of dental caries. The Principal School Dental Officer is most concerned and has kindly given me his permission to quote the following statement:

"The incidence of dental decay in the mouths of children in the district shows no sign of lessening. Much work is being done to try to bring about an improvement in oral hygiene and to establish sensible dietary habits. But, to take a realistic view, an unqualified success cannot be expected. The one great hope for the future dental health of the community lies in bringing the fluoride content of the public water supplies to the optimum level of one part per million.

It cannot be sufficiently emphasised that Fluoridation completely satisfies the three criteria of any Public Health measure:-

1. That it is necessary
2. That it is effective, and
3. That it is safe.

G. Simons."

CONFERENCES AND COURSES

None were attended by the Medical Officer of Health. The Public Health Inspector during the year attended the Public Health Inspectors Course at the Civil Defence Staff College, Sunningdale, Berks.

New Legislation

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 is of considerable importance and comes into force in 1964.

This is the first legislation controlling the conditions of work for office workers, and, to some extent, shop workers, for over eighty years. Thus a valuable and important contribution has been made to the improvement of working conditions of the employees concerned. Briefly, this Act will require shops and offices to have adequate lighting, heating, ventilation and to provide proper sanitary and washing facilities. It also embraces the safety standards for fire and other risks. Thus working conditions will not only be healthier and safer but more comfortable. The first step will be for owners and occupiers to register with the Health Department.

Other legislation included the Public Lavatories Turnstiles Act, 1963, and the Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

STAFF

Dr. J.D. Russell resigned on 17th July, 1963 and I assumed duty on 9th September, 1963. There were no other staff changes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is a pleasure to record my appreciation of the excellent co-operation I have had from the Public Health Inspector, Mr. J.D. Hadden.

I am also grateful for the support given by Mrs. Morris, the clerk and b Mr. Norman, the Rodent Operative.

I conclude by thanking the Health Committee for their encouragement and support which have greatly helped me in my task.

Yours faithfully,

D.W. QUANTRILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

1. GENERAL

Total hours of sunshine during 1963	1,645.4 hours
Total rainfall during 1963	37.29 inches
Area in acres	3,562
Number of inhabited houses (at 31.3.64)	1,941
Rateable value (at 1.4.63)	£230,733
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1962/63)	£429

2. VITAL

Population (Registrar General's estimate) 6,100

	M	F	Total
Births			
Number of live legitimate births	33	42	75
Number of live illegitimate births	4	2	6
Live birth rate for 1,000 of estimated resident population			13.3
Comparative factor (births)			1.45
Comparative birth rate			19.3
Live birth rate for 1,000 in England and Wales			18.2
Number of legitimate stillbirths	-	-	Nil
Number of illegitimate stillbirths	-	-	Nil
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths			Nil
Total live and stillbirths			81
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			7.4
Deaths			
Total number of deaths	69	68	137
Crude death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			22.5
Comparative factor (deaths)			0.64
Comparative death rate			14.4
Death rate in England and Wales			12.2
Number of deaths of legitimate infants under one year of age	-	1	1
Number of deaths of illegitimate infants under one year of age	-	-	Nil
Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births			12.3
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			13.3
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			Nil
Infant mortality rate (England and Wales)			21.1
Neo-natal mortality rate for 1,000 live births			Nil
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births			Nil
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths			Nil
Maternal deaths (including abortion)			Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths			Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1 (2)	- (-)
Tuberculosis, other	- (-)	- (-)
Syphilitic disease	- (-)	- (-)
Diphtheria	- (-)	- (-)
Whooping Cough	- (-)	- (-)
Meningococcal infections	- (-)	- (-)
Acute Poliomyelitis	- (-)	- (-)
Measles	- (-)	- (-)
Other infective and parasitic diseases	- (-)	- (-)
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	4 (2)	1 (1)
" " - lung and bronchus	4 (8)	- (3)
" " - Breast	- (-)	4 (4)
" " - uterus	- (-)	3 (-)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4 (6)	3 (5)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	- (1)	- (1)
Diabetes	- (-)	- (1)
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7 (8)	19 (11)
Coronary disease, angina	20 (10)	11 (5)
Hypertension with heart disease	1 (1)	1 (3)
Other heart disease	2 (2)	5 (4)
Other circulatory disease	6 (5)	6 (10)
Influenza	- (-)	- (-)
Pneumonia	5 (7)	2 (4)
Bronchitis	3 (3)	3 (-)
Other diseases of respiratory system	4 (-)	1 (1)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2 (-)	- (-)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	- (1)	- (-)
Nephritis, nephrosis	- (-)	1 (-)
Hyperplasia of prostate	1 (1)	- (-)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	- (-)	- (-)
Congenital malformations	- (-)	- (-)
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3 (3)	4 (3)
Motor Vehicle accidents	1 (1)	- (-)
All other accidents	1 (-)	3 (2)
Suicide	- (1)	1 (-)
Homicide and operations of war	- (-)	- (-)
	69 (62)	68 (59)

Note: Figures for 1962 are entered in brackets.

HEALTH SERVICES

Prevalence and Control of Infectious and other Diseases

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic)	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Measles	49	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis (post infectious)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	2	2	1
Tuberculosis (meninges & C.N.S.)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (other)	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
	51	2	1

Age at Date of Notification

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	Typhoid Fever	Food Poisoning	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whooping Cough	Meningococcal Infection	Erysipelas	Acute encephalitis (post-infectious)	Tuberculosis (respiratory)	Tuberculosis (Meninges & CNS)	Tuberculosis (other)	Paratyphoid Fever
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 and under 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 and under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 and under 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 and under 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 and under 20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 and under 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 and under 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 and under 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

Total number of outbreaks	Nil
Number of cases	Nil
Number of deaths	Nil

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES - From the weekly returns of head teachers:-

German measles	1
Chickenpox	14
Measles	21
Mumps	3
Scarlet Fever	2
	41

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Period	Total	New Cases Pulm. M.	New Cases Pulm. F.	New Cases Non-Pulm. M.	New Cases Non-Pulm. F.	Total	Deaths Pulm. M.	Deaths Pulm. F.	Deaths Non-Pulm. M.	Deaths Non-Pulm. F.
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 and under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 " " 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 " " 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 " " 20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 " " 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 " " 30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 " " 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 " " 55	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 " " 65	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 " " 75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 and over	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	* 4	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* This total includes one transfer from the mainland. One patient on the Tuberculosis Register died of another cause.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1944

Number of samples taken during 1963	30
Number of samples found to be positive for Tubercle Bacillus	-
Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated	-

VENTNOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Salisbury Gardens,

Ventnor, I.W.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Ventnor Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District, and I am indebted to Dr. D.W. Quantrill for the privilege of presenting this section of the report.

The two main items of interest were the formation of Health Education classes in Food Hygiene and the commencement of a contract scheme for the eradication of rodents.

The formation of the Health Education classes, with discussions taking place between the food handlers and the Health Officers, have proved invaluable, if only because it created a common interest in food hygiene and the awakening of the food handlers to the reasoning behind the current legislation on food hygiene.

The Rodent Control Contract Scheme commenced in August, 1963 and has been found to be successful. The regular service and inspection of the properties has without doubt had effect. Infestations of rodents are now dealt with at an early stage and the days of major infestations are happily now few. In this connection I should like to thank the rodent operative, Mr. R. Norman for the able way in which he has carried out his task.

I have pleasure also, in recording my appreciation of the work and support given me by my clerk, Mrs. Morris.

I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement, and my colleagues and staff for their help and loyal support during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES D. HADDEN,

Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Summary of Inspections and Visits

Public Health Acts	91
Public Health Acts (reinspections)	96
Housing Acts	32
Housing Acts (reinspections)	39
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	33
Houses in Multiple Occupation	19
Houses in Multiple Occupation (overcrowding)	19
Infectious Diseases	2
Water Supply	31
Clean Air Act	8
Caravans	41
Food Premises	401
Shops Act	57
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	3302 *
Infestations	53
Interviews etc.	97
Drainage	119
Refuse Collection	35
Refuse Disposal	34
Sanitary Conveniences	35
Factories Act	18
	4562

* This figure includes 3144 visits made by the Rodent Operative.

Complaints

Two-hundred and seventy-six complaints as under were received and dealt with:-

Food	9
Rodent Control	163
Insect pests	30
Housing defects	19
Drainage	23
Refuse	5
Miscellaneous	7
Houses in Multiple Occupation	3
Caravans	4
Shops Act	3
Food	9
Water Supply	1
	276

Statutory Notices

	Served	Complied with by owner
Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 50)	1	1

Informal Notices

	Served	Complied
Public Health Act, 1936	12	11
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	7	2
Factories Act	Nil	Nil

Water Supply

(a) Public Supply

The Urban District is supplied by the Isle of Wight Water Board from the following sources:-

(a) A deep well in the Waterworks, Mitchell Avenue, Ventnor.
(b) A supply of surface water from the Railway Tunnel.
(c) A spring a Wroxall.
(d) Two springs at St. Lawrence.

The water is chlorinated but not filtered and is not liable to have plumbosolvent action.

The sampling of water at source and during treatment is the responsibility of the Water Board.

Copies of the Public Health Laboratory reports are supplied to the County Medical Officer and Public Health Inspector.

Given below is a summary of results obtained during the year :-

Grade	Untreated Water	Treated Water
Satisfactory	19	43
Suspicious	6	-
Unsatisfactory	20	2

(b) Private Supplies

Some properties have private supplies of water from springs or wells. Forty-three samples were taken during the year.

Results were:-

Grade	
Satisfactory	24
Unsatisfactory	15
Suspicious	4

Children's Paddling Pool

The paddling pool on the Eastern Esplanade again proved popular, chlorination being carried out by hand just after the filling of the pool in the mornings with a further dosage at the beginning of the afternoon.

Private Swimming Pool

The Ventnor Secondary Modern School has an open air pool, water being obtained from the main water supply. Chlorination is carried out at least once daily when in use.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The refuse collection and disposal service is under the control of the Surveyor and a weekly collection of domestic refuse was maintained.

The use of paper sacks is much more in evidence, particularly in hotels and guest houses and disposal is by tipping in an old lime quarry.

During the year regular spraying with insecticides and treatment for rodent infestation reduced nuisance to a minimum, especially in the case of rodents.

Sewerage

There is no central sewage disposal plant in the Urban District.

Bonchurch at the Eastern end of the district is mainly served by:-

(a) Cesspools
(b) Septic Tanks

except for one private sewer which discharges into the sea.

St. Lawrence is mainly served by:-

(a) Cesspools
(b) Small treatment plants

The sewage of Ventnor is discharged to the sea from four outfalls and the Council operates a cesspool emptying service.

Infestations

Complaints of insect pests included:-

Flies	7
Cockroaches	7
Woodlice	2
Fleas	2
Ants	6
Wasps Nests	7

Treatment and eradication of the above insect pests was carried out by modern insecticides. A charge of 5/- was levied in respect of the destruction of wasps nests.

Rodent Control

Three hundred and twenty-nine premises were treated during the year, the Rodent Operative making 3144 visits, 967 of which were for routine inspections. The annual testing andtreatment of the Council's sewers was carried out during the year. One manhole was found to be infected. Treatment was carried out until a "no take" was recorded. During the year the Council approved and effected a Contract Scheme for business premises and at the end of 1963 the figure for contracts was £271. 10. 0.

Housing

Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation and represented under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	1
Number of demolition orders made	2
Number of undertakings to carry out repairs accepted	1
Number of houses demolished	1
Number of premises made fit as a result of undertakings given by the owner	1
Number of premises made fit as a result of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	14

Council Housing

The Council own 226 houses and flats and at the end of the year there were 89 applicants for housing on the Council list of whom only 11 were priority.

Caravan Sites

There are two holiday caravan sites in the Urban District. In addition three individual caravans are used for this purpose. 41 visits were made to the caravan sites for the purpose of supervision and in connection with the issue of site licences.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

At the end of the year the number of food premises in the district was 134 classified as follows:-

Bakehouses	4
Butchers	6
Cafes, Snack Bars and Kiosks	42
Sugar Confectioners	11
Flour Confectioners	6
Dairies	2
Fishmongers	3
Fried Fish Shops	3
Grocers	26
Licensed Premises (other than private hotel licences)	23

Food Premises Registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955

	Number	Inspections
Registered for the sale of ice cream:-		
Grocers	17	56
Confectioners	10	14
Kiosks	10	20
Fishmongers	1	6
Cafes, etc.	26	24
Registered for the preparation of sausages:-		
Butchers	3	32
Registered for the Preservation of Food (by cooking)		
Grocers	2	2
Fried Fish Shops	3	3
Fishmongers	1	3
Premises Registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1959		
Dairies	2	1

Unsound Food

Unsound food surrendered for destruction included:-

7 lbs.	Tinned Fruit Preserve
13 lbs.	Jellied Eels
193 lbs.	Fresh Meat
12 lbs. 12 ozs.	Tinned Meat
6 lbs. 2 ozs.	Tinned Vegetables
33 lbs.	Bacon
11 lbs. 6 ozs.	Cooked Ham
8 lbs. 4 ozs.	Tinned Corned Beef
38 lbs. 4 ozs.	Tinned Fruit
10½ ozs.	Tinned Soup
15¾ ozs.	Tinned Fish

All unsound food is stained and buried on the refuse tip under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

Ice Cream

Sixty-four premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the sale of ice cream. No premises were registered for the manufacture of ice cream, all supplies being obtained from the larger manufacturers on the mainland, or from a wholesale manufacturer from an adjoining district.

Slaughter of Animals Act

The licence of one slaughterman was renewed.

Food Sampling

The Isle of Wight County Council, as the Food and Drugs Authority, is responsible for sampling, and I am endebted to the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures for the following information regarding samples taken during the year.

Article Sampled	Appropriate Tests	Number of Samples		
		Passed	Failed	Void
MILK				
T.T. (Raw)	Fat	5	-	-
	Solids-not-fat	5	-	-
	Methylene blue	8	3	-
Pasteurised	Fat	5	-	-
	Solids-not-fat	5	-	-
	Methylene blue	14	1	-
	Phosphatase	15	-	-

FOODSTUFFS	Number Taken	Number Unsatisfactory
Mince Meat	1	-
Curry Powder	1	-
Marzipan	1	-
Lemon Cheese	1	-
Blueberry Pie Filling	1	-
Apple Juice	1	-
Sultanas	1	-
	7	-

Factories Acts 1937 - 1959

1. Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health:-

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	22	18	-	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities (excl. out-workers' premises)	-	18	-	-
	23	18	NIL	NIL

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Found	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
		Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Outwork

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Stuffed Toys	19	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL